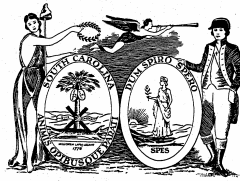


STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
State Budget and Control Board
OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES

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SAMUEL L. WILKINS
DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: Agency Heads and Human Resources Directors of All State Agencies, Departments, Institutions, and Commissions

FROM: Samuel L. Wilkins, Director

SUBJECT: State Employee Recognition Activities

DATE: April 24, 2007

We have now finalized plans for recognizing S.C. state employees during National Public Service Recognition Week, May 7-11, 2007.

- **Governor's Proclamation**

Attached to this e-mail is Governor Sanford's proclamation declaring May 9, 2007, State Employee Recognition Day in South Carolina. You may share the proclamation with each employee of your agency. You may duplicate the proclamation and distribute it to your employees or you may send your employees an e-mail and attach the document. The attached proclamation is presented in **PDF format**. You will need the **Acrobat Reader** installed on your computer to be able to view and print this document from your browser. If you do not have **Acrobat Reader** installed, please use the following link:

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

- **Discounts for State Employees**

The following State agencies will offer special discounts:

* The Department of Archives & History will offer a 10% discount to state employees on all gift items for the entire week of National Public Service Recognition week. Discounts will be given at **Archives & History's gift shop**.

*The Department of Natural Resources will offer a 20% discount to state employees on all gift items for the entire week of National Public Service Recognition week. Discounts will be given at **DNR's gift shops** or **online at www.scwildlife.com** and then placing a credit card order toll-free at 1-888-644-9453.

*The Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism will offer a 10% discount to state employees on May 9th at gift shops at **The State House** and **The Governor's Mansion**.

*The **SC Confederate Relic Room** will offer a 10% discount to state employees on May 9th on all of their gift items. Visit the gift shop in person on May 9th or select items online at www.crr.sc.gov and call (803) 737-8093 or (803) 737-8095 to place a credit card order. The South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Museum Gift Shop is located at 301 Gervais Street.

*The **Gift Shop at Patriots Point** will offer a 20% store discount to all state employees during National Public Service Recognition week. Visit the website at www.patriotspoint.org.

*The **SC Deaf and Blind School** will offer 20% discount to state employees at the Walker Hall Gift Shop during National Public Service Recognition week.

*The **Cotton Mill Exchange at the South Carolina State Museum** will offer a 10% discount off of their entire store purchases on Wednesday, May 9th with the presentation of their state identification. State employees who are also members of the museum will receive an additional 10 % discount when they present their membership cards at the register, for a total of 20% off their purchases.

- **WeSave Card**

State employees have a new way to save...the WeSave Card. The State of South Carolina is offering an added way for state employees to save money on everyday purchases. Similar to the PerksCard, the WeSave card can be used to receive discounts at local businesses on goods and services.

WeSave, Inc. is a provider of loyalty/benefit programs for public employees. State employees activate their WeSave cards on-line, by mail or by phone. Once it has been activated, the WeSave card can be presented to a participating merchant and the employee receives a discount instantly on goods or services purchased. Membership in the WeSave card program is free to state employees and there is no cost to be a WeSave merchant. WeSave is working hard to increase the number of vendors offering discounts to state employees. To find out who has been added to the list of participating merchants, simply check the [WeSave Card](http://www.wesave.com) website.

- **PerksCard**

OHR encourages eligible employees to use their PerksCards during this week and throughout the year to save on everyday purchases of goods and services. Several new state and national vendors have been added to the list of participating vendors. Please go to www.PerksCard.com for more information. PerksCard takes pride in saving participating card holders money on the purchases they make everyday. Here are some “REAL” savings stories:

Bob - saved \$582.00 on a monitor from Overstock.com

Peter - a new PerksCard holder just registered his PerksCard & found a special offer on a Dell Dimension Computer w/a 19” flat panel monitor for only \$349, usually \$599 a savings of \$250!

Andrea - a teacher needed to replace her 40 year old pool liner; she called the John Joseph Pool company and saved \$1,000.00. Andrea wrote a thank you note to her teachers association and encouraged her co-workers to register their cards.

Lisa - saved \$300.00 on a rental car from Budget while on vacation in Florida.

Sal - just before Sal received his PerksCard he purchased new golf clubs for \$3,000.00- after registering his PerksCard went to www.overstock.com and found the same golf clubs for \$1,200.00 less.

How do your savings compare?

Check out www.perkscard.com often for up and coming specials, offers and promotions.

- **Agency Recognition Activities for State Employees**

State agencies are asked to plan at least one event during the week of May 7-11, preferably on May 9th, to recognize their employees. If you have not already done so, please send me a brief description of your planned activity by May 4th. We will develop a composite summary of the week's events to share with the Governor's Office and with the National Association of State Personnel Executives (NASPE). NASPE is promoting similar recognition activities for state employees in states across the nation.

- **Previous Agency Recognition Activities for State Employees**

In past years, agencies have been very creative in their attempts to recognize employees. The following are some of the things that agencies have done in the past:

- * A statement was posted on the marquee at the front entrance of the agency notifying the community of National Public Service Recognition Week.

- * The Executive Director of the agency will e-mail a "thank you card" to all employees along with the Governor's Proclamation.

- * Provided a lunch with a barbeque sandwich, chips, cookies and a drink. In conjunction with the lunch, we are holding the DOR Idol competition.

- **Additional Resources**

You may review NASPE'S *Guide to State Employee Recognition Day* at <http://www.naspe.net/index.cfm?PageID=20>. You will also find additional links on this website to include Recognition Day activities, letters to employees, posters, and a sample Employee Recognition Packet.

Thank you for your extra efforts to express appreciation to your agency's employees and to the other dedicated men and women who devote their careers to serving the people of South Carolina.

Please feel free to call my office at (803) 737-0900 if you have questions or need additional information regarding this initiative.